

A

REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, May 25. 1708.

AND why will you advise us to choose *Tories* to represent us in the next Parliament, says a sober Enquirer into this Matter, and that seems a little displeased at my suggesting so much Blindness to be the Lot of this Nation.

And pray, why not choose *Tories* to represent us, says another; *Tories* or *Highbinders*, as you are pleased to call them, are Christians and Protestants, and English Men have Estates to loose Posterity, to take care of, as well as other Folks; pray, why must we not choose *Tories* as well as *Whigs*?

Of these in their Order, and for the present to the first, why will you advise us to choose *Tories*, &c.? To this let me answer, pray, Sir, who are you that ask this question? For according to your Character will be the

Application of this whole Story: And to explain my self, I come a little closer to the Case, if you are a *Whig*, you are one of these two Sorts; either you are one, who espousing sincerely the true Interest of the Government, and examining into the Administration, find it to be placed by the QUEEN in the Hands of such Instruments, which her Majesty in her Wisdom has thought fit to entrust for the carrying on the same Measures, you your selves approve of. As to how these Instruments discharge themselves, you will allow Room for Human Infirmitie, and then keep your Eye upon the Principle from which they act; you consider, if they fail, it may admit of Rectification, but does not imply always a Breach upon their Integrity, much less a Reproach upon

upon the whole Party, and if you object against Miscarriages when you find them, 'tis to have them prevented for the future, your Complaint is against the thing, not the Men ; your Objections are not Personal against the Party, but against the Fact, and the Grievance being redress'd, you are easie ; if you are one of these, the Discourse is directly Ironical, (if that be proper to say) and the Advice to choose Tories, is not to you otherwise than to caution you against the Evils, that we fear from other Peoples doing it.

If you are one of our new Sort of Whigs, your Character is in part thus ; You were born in former Times, when Governments gave constant Cause of Complaint and Discontent to the Subject, when Taxes were given by them that receiv'd Part of the Spoil, and suffer'd themselves to be brib'd to betray their Country, when Money was obtain'd by Collusion, extorted by Rapine, and expended in Luxury, when Iniquity triumph'd, and Vice sat Rampant above Law or good Manners, and here you learnt so constantly to rail at Government, that Habit prevailing upon Judgment, you forgot to distinguish the Subject, or enquire whether with or without Cause ; in Pursuit of this Temper, you fall foul without Distinction upon the Innocent and the Guilty, and forgetting that the Government is in Hands after your own Heart ; you fall confessing Crimes for your Friends before they commit them, and challenge them for Crimes they never commit ; in this Humour leaving all Manner of Charity at Home in your Closet, *if ever you come there*, you censure Mistakes for Treachery, Want of Success for Want of Sincerity, Defects of Circumstances for Defects of Conduct, Casualty for Contrivance, and all Manner of Disaster for Negligence and Mismanagement ; as to the Ministry, if they do not find all Angels to employ under them, then you will have them be all Devils themselves, every Mistake the meanest Agent makes, lies at their Door, they punish no Body, if they do not punish every Body, and if they please you in displacing sometimes, 'tis certain they never please you in filling up.

You are the Men, that without considering who or what the Causes of any Miscarriages, or that you are assisting others to reproach the Nation with a Whig Management, and charge all the Mismanagement of Things upon the Whigs right or wrong, you are the Men, I say, that assisting the Tory Party to load the Whigs with innumerable Forgeries, are backing the Cry against the Ministry, not as Men but as Whigs, and branding the Party not the Persons of the Guilty.

Now 'tis so to you this Motion of mine is directed, I would hope, and therefore will for once suppose, you are honest Men, as for your being wise Men, I entreat you, let us not enter into the Discourse of that, but since I suppose you honest, which is as much as you can expect me ; it is upon that Supposition that I advise you to choose a Tory Parliament, and the Case is plain, you have had a Whig Parliament, and a Whig Ministry, and a Whig Management of Things a long time, and none of these can please you ; Will you try a Tory Parliament, and see if they can please you better ? Will you try High-Flyers, Tackers, mad Men, and Men disposed to the Precipitations we have been speaking of ?

These Men, as they now joyn with you in railing at the Ministry, and in crying out of Mismanagements, will effectually cure you of that Cry, their little Fingers are heavier than the Loins of these, they shall deliver your fancy'd Miscarriages the shortest way, they shall link the Ship to drown the Rats, they shall mend one Breach in the Government and make two, they shall remove your fancy'd Grievances, and bring you real ones, they shall take away your fallible Ministry, and supply your Want with infallible Tyranny ; then you shall have Leanness of Bones and Cleanness of Teeth, Want of Liberty, Want of Assistance, Want of Physicians to cure the Diseases of the State ; you shall be filled then with your Ways, then you shall cry out because of the Bondage and Captivity you shall be brought under, and there shall be none to deliver you — In short, shall I refer you to Moses, when he told the Children of Israel what should befall them, if they transgressed

gressed the Communion of the Lord their God, some of which are directly suited for you, Deut. 28. v. 28, 29.

The Lord shall smite thee with Madness, and Blindness, and Astonishment of Heart, there is a possi'd deluded Nation, v. 29. Thou shalt be openly oppressed and spoiled evermore, there is *Tory* Administration restored, and no Man shall save thee, v. 30. Thou shalt betroth a Wife, and another Man shall lie with her, there is K. Charles II. restor'd; thou shalt build a House, and thou shalt not dwell therein, there is 1680 exactly, v. 31. Thine Ox shall be slain before thine Eyes, and thou shalt not eat thereof; thine Ass shall be violently taken away from before thine Eyes, and shall not be restored to thee; thy sheep shall be given to thine Enemies, and thou shalt have none to rescue them, there's the Plunderings in the West of Scotland return'd; the Fruit of thy Land and all thy Labours, shall a Nation which thou knowest not, eat up, there is Invasion, and thou shalt be only oppressed and crush'd always, there is French Government, v. 37. Thou shalt become an Astonishment, a Proverb, and a By-Word among all Nations, there is the just Contempt you ought to have that enjoy'd Liberty, and neither have Hearts to value it, nor Hands to keep it, v. 43. The Stranger that is within thee, viz. the High-Flyer, shall get up above thee very high, i. e. in the Government, there is a *Tory* Ministry, and thou shalt come down very low; there's Bondage the natural Consequence of a Jacobite Administration.

In short, if the Inspired Man of God had been talking to us, he could not have spoken more livelily, nor more emphatically have described the Loss of Liberty, Property and the Law to any Nation in the World, and in Description of Slavery, nothing was ever more elegant, v. 66. Thy Life shall hang in doubt before thee, thou shalt fear Day and Night, and shall have no Assurance of thy Life, there is the exact Delineation of Edinburgh, had she been possess'd by the French, v. 49. The Lord shall bring against thee from far, a Nation of a fierce Countenance, which shall not regard the Person of the Old, or shew Fa-

vour to the Young — There is the's Cruelty, and he shall eat the Fruit of thy Castle, and the Fruit of thy Land also shall not leave thee, either Corn, Wine, or Oyl, there is Rapine and Plunder.

I could run this dreadful Parallel a great way farther, and effectually describe the miserable Effects of a *Tory* Administration, in order to open your Eyes to my Proposal, and to prompt you at least to think of this new fashion'd Experiment, and to put you upon considering what this thing, we call a *Tory* Ministry, a *Tory* Parliament, or a *Tory* Administration, means.

Now shall I speak a Word about Government and Governors, in which perhaps you will not find me so partial as some have pretended to expect me.

And first without Fear I declare my self to own, to love, to obey, or respect no Government or Governors in the World, be they Kings, Parliaments, Magistrates or Ministry, of what Power, Right, Dignity, or Authority soever, but such as rule by and subject their Management to the Laws of God, and the Country they govern; I profess to believe, it is my Duty, and the Duty of every Loyal Subject to resist and oppose all Sorts of Tyranny, by all Sorts of Legal Opposition, and I bless God, I can lay, I never stoop'd to Tyranny in my Life, and I hope never shall, tho' I have liv'd under almost all Sorts of Tyranny, and have felt my Share of it — I have liv'd under luxuriant Tyranny and Popish Tyranny; I have liv'd under, seen and bore Testimony against Regal Tyranny, Instrumental Tyranny, Parliamentary Tyranny, and Party Tyranny, and in my low Station have opposed them all, and as long as I have a Head or a Hand, I shall oppose all Sorts of Tyranny.

But, Gentlemen, when I come to live under a gentle Hand of Government, a legal Method of Government, a just supreme Power, a regulated subordinate Power, when I find my self under a Princess that rules by Law, cleaves to Justice, abhors Oppression, supports Truth, seeks Peace, defends Liberty, studies her Peoples Ease, till She gets little Herself, grieves for their Divisions, pities their Blindness, punishes with